

Pleasantdale District #107

Dear Family Members,

This year we are excited to continue a program called Caring School Community (CSC.) It is designed to help children feel connected to school by building a sense of caring and community in the school. Studies show that children who feel connected to school tend to do better academically over time and may be less likely to engage in problem behaviors such as cigarette smoking, drug and alcohol abuse, and violence.

CSC is a year-long program that includes regular **Class Meetings**, in which the teacher and students sit in a circle to solve problems and discuss how they can make the class a place that feels caring and safe for everyone. This year your child will also participate in a **Buddies** program, in which children develop a special friendship with an older or younger “buddy.” Buddies meet to participate in activities such as reading, games, holiday activities, science experiments and more!

Once a month your child will bring home a **Homeside Activity**. These activities are designed to stimulate conversations between you and your child. We hope that these activities, plus the exciting **Schoolwide Community Building Activities** planned for this year, will help you become part of our vibrant school community.

Of course, parent involvement is very important to your child’s success at school. We look forward to working with you to make this a great year for your child!